

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Indiana-Ohio Till Plain-Grazing

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Indiana-Ohio Till Plain-Grazing		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer implement conservation practices which:	
3. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean Air: Treatment of air quality from agricultural sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
4. a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO ₂ (Carbon Dioxide), CH ₄ (Methane), and N ₂ O (Nitrous Oxide)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
6. a. Benefit on-farm habitat associated with threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project assist the producer implement practices which:	

7. a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
8. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP (122,124)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
9. a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Quality: excess nutrients in ground and surface water	
1. Will this application increase the "Livestock Concentration Areas" score on the applicant's Pasture Condition Score Sheet by one point or more? (If they have No Pasture Condition Score Sheet answer No)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Does this application include an EQIP practice to address unmanaged runoff from the winter feeding location?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will this application includes practices that exclude livestock from streams/woodland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Does the applicant's current winter feeding area have flood prone soils (as determined by the soil survey) or is it within 100 feet of a concentrated flow area and this area will be treated by a practice in this EQIP contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Applicant will be implementing Prescribed Grazing according to NRCS standards and specifications?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Erosion: sheet and rill erosion	
1. Will this application increase the "Sheet and Rill Erosion" score on the Pasture Condition Score Sheet by one point or more? (If they have No Pasture Condition Score Sheet answer No)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will this application increase the "Plant Cover" score on the Pasture Condition Score Sheet by one point or more? (If they have No Pasture Condition Score Sheet answer No)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Does the EQIP plan include the installation of an adequate watering facility within 100 ft of the heavy use pad used for winter feeding? (The applicant can be utilizing an existing heavy use pad or be planning on installing one as part of the contract to answer yes to this question)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Applicant will convert all cropland in this EQIP application to permanent pasture land if addressing either a soil or water resource concern?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Inadequate Habitat for Fish and Wildlife: Habitat degradation	

1. Noxious or Invasive species have been identified on the application's grazing operation and they will be addressed as part of this contract? (See attached FY 2013 Pasture Invasive Plant Species List)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Adequate watering facilities will be installed using EQIP funds in each paddock not to exceed 800 ft from where animals graze?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will land that is actively being row cropped or expired/expiring from CRP be converted to permanent pasture using Forage and Biomass Planting (512), and managed according to Prescribed Grazing (528) instead of being broken out for crops or continuing to be row cropped?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Is available livestock water limiting proper grazing distribution, which, requires the application of Pipeline (516), Pumping Plant (533), Water Facility (614), Spring Development (574), Pond (378), or Well (642)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will a Prescribed Grazing System (528) be implemented with a short duration grazing system of 7 days or less on each paddock?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Will practices that help stabilize the areas frequently used by animals when feeding, watering, or traveling be implemented Practices include; Heavy Use Pad (561), Access Road (560) or, Animal Trails and Walkways (575)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Will livestock be excluded from environmentally sensitive areas (riparian areas, wetland, perennial/intermittent streams and woodlots) by implementing Fence (382), Access Control (472) or Stream Crossing (578)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency: Local Issues: State Issues: National Issues: Final Ranking Score:
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This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative: Signature Date:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy: Signature Date:
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